

## Dart Sailability Top Rules For Your Safety

### Always

- Wear a lifejacket or buoyancy aid when afloat, on pontoons or slipways and make sure it is checked for serviceability and fitted correctly
- Dress appropriately, wear sun-cream and take water along as appropriate to the day's conditions
- Use a kill cord when operating outboard engines
- Follow directions given by the Officer of the Day, Pontoon Master and Safety Boat skipper, and the skipper of your boat
- Ask if you are unsure of how to do something, it protects yourself and others
- Know the *appropriate* International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea 1972 Colregs and apply them (and if racing the Racing Rules of Sailing)
- When a boat has a VHF radio, maintain a good listening watch and follow radio protocol
- Reef a sailing boat in good time before you become over powered
- Check your boat has the correct safety equipment before departing (including a working radio and sufficient fuel if a power or keel boat)
- Use safe refuelling procedures
- Know forecasts of tide and weather conditions before proceeding onto the river or out to sea
- Obtain permission from the OOD or Pontoon Master before proceeding onto the river (or from CI's if outside of a normal sailing session).
- **safety is DSG's No 1 priority**

### Never

- Run or speed in wheelchairs on pontoons, jetties or slipways
- Don't feel pressured to undertake an activity or sail in conditions that you believe are beyond your current proficiency.
- Walk past a safety issue without correcting it or bringing it to the attention of the OOD, Pontoon Master or Safety Boat Coxswain
- Exceed 6 kts on the river unless responding to a life-threatening emergency
- Operate a boat that you are unqualified to (unless under correct supervision)
- Sail outside area(s) designated for sailing on the day
- Sail outside of HOPS weather limits
- Expose any part of your body to the risk of a crush injury

These rules are an aide memoire of the key safety issues and do not remove the requirement for all DSG members to have read the relevant sections of HOPS.